

Good Morning:

About mid-day yesterday, while pot-holing for caissons, a second elevated gamma area at caisson location I-1.9. Gamma readings (unshielded) at about 2.5 to 3-ft reached a maximum of about 95,000 cpm (cutoff of 18,600 cpm). The caisson locations on either side of this location did not exhibit elevated readings (I-1 and I-2.8). Excavation at the I-1.9 location was halted and the remaining caissons along the 1-line along the western side of the site were completed without the identification of any further elevated gamma readings. Thus, all of the caisson locations (see attached drawing) have been explored and the only two locations that indicated the presence of elevated gamma readings consistent with thorium contaminated fill soils were at I-1.9 and I-3.5. These are located along about 7.5 feet north of the sidewalk along E. Illinois Street. It should also be noted that the asphalt paving has been removed from the site and the surface gamma surveys have not indicated the presence of elevated gamma readings.

As indicated previously, there appears to be a significant layer of granite pavers at a depth of about 3 to 4-ft in the vicinity of many of the original down-hole borings the exhibited elevated gamma readings. These pavers consistently generated shielded gamma readings of above 8,000 cpm versus a shielded cutoff of about 6,700 cpm. Thus, the elevated down-hole readings originally observed appear to be related to a layers of pavers. Surveys of the fills soil immediately below (i.e., next 6-inches) the pavers exhibited periodic readings above twice background, but excavator bucket readings of the soil were well below the cutoff. Thus, the screening of the caissons locations did not confirm the elevated gamma readings observed in the down-hole survey as being associated with thorium contaminated fill soil.

I spoke to Verneta Simon and Gene Jablonowski about 2PM yesterday and let them know we found the second location. Gene indicated that he would likely visit the site early this afternoon (8/31/11). In order to better estimate the volume of radiologically contaminated fill soil we intend to perform some delineation around the two locations today. While Gene is at the site we will also try to collect a sample of some of the hottest material for a gamma spec. analysis at RSSI.

Please contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Steve Kornder, Ph.D.
Senior Project Geochemist
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-----Original Message-----

From: Kornder, Steve
Sent: Monday, August 29, 2011 5:07 PM
To: 'Fulghum.Mary@epamail.epa.gov'
Cc: Dombrowski, Leo; Martwick.Cathleen@epa.gov; Biernacki, Donald;
Jablonowski.Eugene@epamail.epa.gov; Simon.Verneta@epamail.epa.gov; 'Koch,
Larry'
Subject: RE: 515 N Peshtigo - Update on Start of Field Activities

Good Afternoon:

I just spoke with Verneta Simon about 4PM to let her know that we encountered some elevated readings while pot-holing for the caissons. The elevated readings occurred at caisson location I-3.5 near the southern property boundary (see attached drawing). At a depth of between 24-36 inches we observed unshielded gamma readings over 20,000 cpm with a maximum of 41,000 cpm (cutoff of ~18,600 cpm). The readings occurred in a black cinder/slag material. With a shield on the probe (cutoff ~6,700), gamma readings ranged from 7,000 - 9,000 cpm with a maximum of about 10,200 cpm. Work at this caisson location was halted and no contaminated fill soils were containerized (i.e., material is still at the base of the shallow excavation). The caissons locations on either side of this site did not encounter elevated readings.

The majority of the pot-holing for the caissons has been completed except for the those along the western edge of the property (1-line). These could not be performed until ComEd de-energized a utility line at the site, which is scheduled for this evening. Tomorrow we intend to conduct pot-holing at the caisson locations along the western edge of the site. Following completion of these we will likely return to the I-3.5 area to conduct some delineation.

I will attempt to contact Gene Jablonowski tomorrow to discuss. In the meantime, please contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
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-----Original Message-----

From: Fulghum.Mary@epamail.epa.gov [mailto:Fulghum.Mary@epamail.epa.gov]
Sent: Monday, August 29, 2011 4:14 PM
To: Fulghum.Mary@epamail.epa.gov
Cc: Dombrowski, Leo; Martwick.Cathleen@epa.gov; Biernacki, Donald;
Jablonowski.Eugene@epamail.epa.gov; Simon.Verneta@epamail.epa.gov; Kornder,
Steve
Subject: Re: 515 N Peshtigo - Update on Start of Field Activities

Leo- I understand that thorium may have been encountered today at 515
Peshtigo. Please cc Cathy, Verneta, Gene and me on all email correspondence
between you and your client to EPA to ensure that we are all kept advised of
the situation and can respond to any public inquiries. Also, we need to
finalize our agreement ASAP. Please call me or Cathy at your earliest
convenience. --Mary

Mary L. Fulghum
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(312) 886-4683 voice
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From: Mary Fulghum/R5/USEPA/US
To: "Dombrowski, Leo" <Dombrowski@wildman.com>
Cc: Cathleen Martwick/R5/USEPA/US@epa, "Biernacki, Donald"
<dbiernacki@relatedmidwest.com>, EUGENE
JABLONOWSKI/R5/USEPA/US@epa, VERNETA SIMON/R5/USEPA/US@epa,
"Kornder, Steve" <Steve.Kornder@aecom.com>
Date: 08/19/2011 11:53 AM
Subject: Re: 515 N Peshtigo - Update on Start of Field Activities

Leo- Did the work start yesterday as anticipated? Please let us know the
results of the test pit surveys today. Will stripping still begin Monday?
Thanks. --Mary

From: "Kornder, Steve" <Steve.Kornder@aecom.com>

To: VERNETA SIMON/R5/USEPA/US@EPA
Cc: "Biernacki, Donald" <dbiernacki@relatedmidwest.com>,
"Dombrowski, Leo" <Dombrowski@wildman.com>, Cathleen
Martwick/R5/USEPA/US@EPA, EUGENE
JABLONOWSKI/R5/USEPA/US@EPA, Mary Fulghum/R5/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 08/17/2011 11:18 AM
Subject: 515 N Peshtigo - Update on Start of Field Activities

Good Morning Verneta:

As I indicated in my voicemail message early this morning, a project meeting was being held this morning to discuss the start of the project. The parking lot is being closed today and site fencing will be going up tomorrow. Equipment for stripping the asphalt will be delivered to the site mid to late morning on Friday. Since the equipment will be there Friday, we currently intend to do a couple of test pits in the area where anomalous readings were observed in the down-hole gamma survey. The actual stripping of the asphalt will be started on Monday.

Please contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
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